

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Applicants have cancelled claims 4-5 and 7 and amended claims 1, 6 and 11.

Accordingly, claims 1-3, 6, and 8-11 are presently pending in this application.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following arguments.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicants have amended the Abstract to remove an instance of the word “said”.

Applicants submit that this amendment does not add any new matter.

III. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of cancelled claims 4-5 and recite that the edge portions of the magnetic field producing elements are “inclined.” Applicants have amended claim 11 to recite similar limitations. Support for these amendment can be found throughout the specification and drawings including in original claims 4-5. Applicants have also amended claim 6 to change the dependency from cancelled claim 5 to claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that none of these amendments add any new matter.

IV. OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Abstract stands objected to because the Abstract uses the word “said”.

Applicants have amended the Abstract to replace “said” with “the.” Applicants submit that the objection has been overcome and request that the objection be withdrawn.

V. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-11 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(B)

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Phelon (U.S. Patent No. 3,663,850). Applicants have cancelled claims 4-5 and 7 and amended claims 1, 6 and 11. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of remaining claims 1-3, 6 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome because Phelon does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations recited in the claims as amended. In re Paulsen, 30 F.3d 1475, 1478-79, 31 U.S.P.Q.2d 1671 (Fed. Cir. 1994); Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.”).

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites an electronic motor having magnetic field producing elements mounted on a rotor wall by resilient retaining members “wherein each resilient retaining member includes a first and a second portion each with a first edge and an opposite second edge, the first and second portions being joined along their first edges and inclined relative to one another at an angle of between 0 and 90°, and the edges of the magnetic field producing elements are inclined to conform to the shape of the resilient retaining member.” Independent claim 11 recites similar limitations. Applicants respectfully submit that Phelon does not teach or suggest an electronic motor meeting the above-recited limitations.

Phelon discloses a motor having elastically deformed, resilient biasing elements to retain magnets around the wall of a motor rotor. Phelon does not, however, disclose or suggest retaining members meeting the limitations set forth in independent claims 1 and 11 as amended. In particular, Phelon does not disclose or suggest retaining members that are “inclined relative to one another at an angle of between 0 and 90°” nor magnets

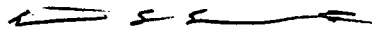
having edges that are “inclined to conform to the shape of the resilient retaining member” as recited in independent claim 1 and in substantially similar terms in independent claim 11. The inclined edges of the magnets and retainers as recited in independent claim 1 and 11 increases the area of contact between the magnets and retainers thereby improving retention of the magnets around the rotor wall.

Because Phelon does not disclose or suggest a motor meeting all of the limitations recited in independent claims 1 and 11, as amended, Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome. Further, because each of claims 2-3, 6 and 8-10 depend from one of the aforementioned independent claims, Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 2-3, 6 and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has also been overcome and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

VI. CONCLUSION

For the above cited reasons, all of the claims presently pending in this application are believed to be allowable. If the Examiner has any further questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant’s undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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